REMARKS

The Examiner rejected Claim 12 as being obvious in view of the combined teachings of the Katoh et al. and Vöcklinghaus references. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

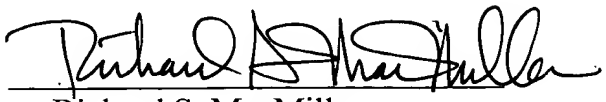
Independent Claim 12 defines the invention as a drive for cooling fans in motor vehicles that includes a primary cooler (4) that is located in a primary cooling circuit (3) and at least two secondary coolers (7, 8) that are located in respective secondary cooling circuits (5, 6). The filling of the working chamber (19) of the fluid friction clutch is controlled by a first control element (21) that opens and closes a first opening (20) in a separating member (18) depending on the temperature of the cooling air passing through the primary cooler (4). The filling of the working chamber (19) of the fluid friction clutch is also controlled by a second control element (31) that opens and closes a second opening (3) in the separating member (18) in accordance with the temperature sensed by one or more of secondary temperature sensors (40, 41) associated with the secondary cooling circuits (5, 6). The control of the second control element (31) is independent of control of the first control element (21).

The Katoh et al. reference does not show or suggest a primary cooler (4) located in a primary cooling circuit (3), as specifically claimed. The Examiner referred to the unnumbered fins above and below the temperature sensor 19 as constituting the primary cooling circuit. However, such a cooler is not "located in" a primary cooling circuit, as specifically claimed. Similarly, the Katoh et al. reference does not show or suggest at least two secondary coolers (7, 8) located in respective secondary cooling circuits (5, 6), as also specifically claimed.

As noted by the Examiner, the Vöcklinghaus reference merely shows a controller 13 that is responsive to a temperature sensor 14 associated with a heat exchanger 12a. Thus, the Vöcklinghaus reference does not appear to address the shortcomings of the Katoh et al. reference discussed above, i.e. multiple secondary coolers located in respective secondary cooling circuits, wherein each of the secondary cooling circuits includes a secondary temperature sensor that is operatively connected

to a control unit for the purposes set forth in Claim 12. Thus, the claimed invention is clearly patentable over the art of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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